

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 **Claim 1 (currently amended)** A real-time information
2 receiving apparatus for receiving real-time information
3 transferred via an asynchronous packet network, comprising:

4 a jitter absorbing buffer for temporarily storing thereinto
5 the real-time information packet received by said packet
6 receiving unit;

7 a decoding unit for decoding data stored in said jitter
8 absorbing buffer;

9 packet number judging means for measuring a total number of
10 packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer and for comparing
11 said measured total packet number with a preset threshold value,
12 and also for notifying the comparison result to a continuation
13 monitoring timer, said threshold value being variable; and

14 data discarding means for discarding either a portion or
15 all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer based
16 upon the comparison result of said packet number comparing means.

1 **Claim 2 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus for receiving real-time information transferred via an
3 asynchronous packet network, comprising:

4 a packet receiving unit for receiving a real-time
5 information packet which is transmitted at a constant coding
6 speed, while having a constant packet length;

7 a jitter absorbing buffer for temporarily storing thereinto
8 the real-time information packet received by said packet
9 receiving unit;

10 a decoding unit for decoding data stored in said jitter
11 absorbing buffer;

12 packet number judging means for measuring a total number of
13 packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer and for comparing
14 said measured total packet number with a preset threshold value,
15 and also for notifying the comparison result to a continuation
16 monitoring timer; and

17 a continuation monitoring timer for judging as to whether
18 or not such a time period during which said comparison result of
19 said packet number judging means exceeds a threshold value is
20 continued over a predetermined threshold value, and for notifying
21 such a fact that said time period is continued over said
22 predetermined threshold value to data discarding means; and

23 data discarding means for discarding either a portion or
24 all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer based
25 upon the comparison result of said continuation monitoring timer.

1 **Claim 3 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus for receiving real-time information transferred via an
3 asynchronous packet network, comprising:

4 a packet receiving unit for receiving a real-time
5 information packet which is transmitted at a constant coding
6 speed, while having a constant packet length;

7 a jitter absorbing buffer for temporarily storing thereinto
8 the real-time information packet received by said packet

9 receiving unit;

10 a decoding unit for decoding data stored in said jitter
11 absorbing buffer;

12 a reception packet counter for counting a total number of
13 real-time information packets received by said packet receiving
14 unit after a communication is commenced;

15 comparing means for comparing said total packet number
16 counted by said reception packet counter with a predetermined
17 threshold value; and

18 data discarding means for discarding either a portion or
19 all of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer based
20 upon the comparison result of said comparing means, which is
21 acquired at a time instant when a predetermined time period has
22 elapsed after the communication has been commenced.

1 **Claim 4 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein:

3 said real-time information receiving apparatus is further
4 comprised of:

5 a timer for outputting a time-up signal after a
6 predetermined time period has passed from a time instant when a
7 first packet is received, or said data is decoded for the first
8 time since the communication has been commenced; and

9 said data discarding means discards either a portion or all
10 of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer based upon
11 the comparison result of said comparing means when said time-up
12 signal is outputted.

1 **Claim 5 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 1 to 4
3 wherein:

4 said data discarding means discards either a portion or all
5 of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer in the unit
6 of a packet.

1 **Claim 6 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims 1 to 4
3 wherein:

4 said data discarding means discards either a portion or all
5 of the packets stored in said jitter absorbing buffer in the unit
6 of a byte.

1 **Claim 7 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in claim 6 wherein:

3 the data discarded by said data discarding means
4 corresponds to such data which may give a small adverse influence
5 to a transmission quality when being discarded.

1 **Claim 8 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in claim 7 wherein:

3 said real-time information packet corresponds to a voice
4 packet; and

5 said data discarding unit is comprised of:

6 a non-voice portion detecting unit for detecting a
7 non-voice portion of voice information stored in said jitter
8 absorbing buffer; and

9 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or all of
10 said detected non-voice portions; and said data discarding means
11 discards only the detected non-voice portion when the data
12 discarding operation is carried out.

1 **Claim 9 (previously presented):** A real-time information
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in claim 8 wherein:

3 said non-voice portion detecting unit notifies information
4 as to such a non-voice portion which should be discarded within
5 said detected non-voice portions to said discarding unit; and
6 said discarding unit discards only said notified non-voice
7 portion.

1 **Claim 10 (original):** A real-time information receiving
2 apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein:

3 said non-voice portion detecting unit divides said detected
4 non-voice portion by using a block having a preselected fixed
5 length as a dividing unit, and notifies such a block except for
6 a head block thereof and a tail block thereof as said block which
7 should be discarded to said discarding unit.

1 **Claim 11 (currently amended):** A real-time information
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims
3 1 to 4 ~~and claims 7 to 10~~ wherein:

4 said data discarding means is comprised of:

5 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or all of
6 the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and

7 a dummy data producing/inserting unit for producing such

8 dummy data having a smaller data amount than an amount of said
9 data to be discarded, and for inserting said produced dummy data
10 into said jitter absorbing buffer; and

11 said data discarding means inserts said dummy data instead
12 of the data to be discarded when the data stored in said jitter
13 absorbing buffer is discarded.

1 **Claim 12 (currently amended):** A real-time information
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims
3 1 to 4 ~~and claims 7 to 10~~ wherein:

4 said data discarding means is comprised of:

5 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or all of
6 the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and

7 a discard judging unit for judging as to whether or not an
8 amount of data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer after the
9 data is discarded becomes smaller than a predetermined threshold
10 value before the data discarding operation is actually carried
11 out; and

12 said data discarding means does not execute the data
13 discarding operation in such a case that said data amount of the
14 jitter absorbing buffer becomes smaller than the threshold value.

1 **Claim 13 (currently amended):** A real-time information
2 receiving apparatus as claimed in any one of the preceding claims
3 1 to 4 ~~and 7 to 10~~ wherein:

4 said data discarding means is comprised of:

5 a discarding unit for discarding either a portion or all of
6 the data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer; and

7 a discard judging unit for judging as to whether or not an
8 amount of data stored in said jitter absorbing buffer after the
9 data is discarded becomes smaller than a predetermined threshold
10 value before the data discarding operation is actually carried
11 out; and

12 said data discarding means executes the data discarding
13 operation in such a case that said data amount of the jitter
14 absorbing buffer does not become smaller than the threshold
15 value; and also discards only such a data amount that a data
16 amount left in said jitter absorbing buffer is made equal to a
17 threshold value in such a case that since there are large numbers
18 of data to be discarded, if all of said data to be discarded are
19 discarded, then a data amount of said jitter absorbing buffer
20 becomes smaller than the threshold value.